



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GREEN CITIES, MORE JOBS ECONOMIC SUMMIT NOVEMBER 18

Hoping to increase job opportunities while also greening the environment, Los Angeles County has partnered with Citi Community Development and Emerald Cities Collaborative to help guide and provide incentives for cities, school districts, contractors and local workers to retrofit buildings to be more environmentally sound.

The Green Cities, More Jobs: Summit for Economic Development will be held Monday at 11:30 a.m. the East Rancho Dominguez Library, 4420 E. Rose St., in East Rancho Dominguez and will focus on ways to access financing, procure contracts and hiring of a local work force that is trained to retrofit aging buildings and build new sustainable models.

City officials from Inglewood, Carson, Culver City, Compton, Lynwood, Lawndale, Los Angeles and Hawthorne have been invited along with contractors and business owners to learn the details of how to take advantage of programs, financing and training programs that are available today.

Green building brings many advantages, including lower energy and water costs, reduced waste, less exposure to toxic materials and improvements in natural

surroundings with drought tolerant and native landscaping. Los Angeles County spends approximately \$150 million year to heat, cool and light its buildings.

The event will also highlight the East Rancho Dominguez Library, which is the only county-owned building that received LEED Platinum certification for its environmentally sustainable construction and design.

“We must lead the way in bringing more sustainable building practices to Los Angeles,” said Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chairman Mark Ridley-Thomas. “It is imperative that we change our ways for the future of our children and grandchildren. Green building is here to stay and we are embracing it for its environmental, economic and social benefits.”

The Green Cities, More Jobs Economic Summit is part of the larger Southern California Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN) pilot program authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission to provide greater local government control of energy efficiency initiatives. The SoCalRen includes more than 50 municipalities committed to lowering their buildings’ energy consumption.

“We are helping residents and contractors from low and moderate income communities compete for LA County projects and for over \$2 billion a year of state and utility energy efficiency investments,” said Denise Fairchild, President/CEO of Emerald Cities, a national nonprofit sustainable development firm.

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